

Community Foundation
Listening Learning Partnerships
Newfield Town Hall
Monday, November 1, 2010
Meeting Notes

14 Newfield residents in attendance (only 3 RSVP'ed) with Linda Madeo and George Ferrari from the Community Foundation

**What are two or three of the most pressing current issues for your community?
Which of these issues have emerged within the last year?**

Lack of high speed internet connectivity

Issues of land management and water shed issues, environmental concerns, headwaters of Cayuga Lake

Need better ways to fund all types of programs for youth, recreational, social, academic

Concerns about healthy eating, lifetime healthy habits food choices, exercise for both young people and adults

Better support for library, need better way to fund youth, reading. Library is smallest funded library in Tompkins County. Need funding for personnel.

Transportation

These two together especially for unemployed

Childcare

Need better connections among community groups such as Lions/Lionesses and town government and school, would like to have list of student volunteers

Need better way of getting information out and flowing among residents of Newfield, what is going on and what is needed in terms of participation and volunteer recruitment

How to increase the value and support of volunteerism, from where is the next generation of volunteers going to come? Need more people and more volunteers and more encouragement of volunteers for events such as Old Home Days

Preservation and common places of civic pride, two historic bridges and parks

How to encourage tourism and economic development

How do we let the large number of people who drive by on Route 13 know that Newfield is here and not to overlook Newfield, need signage along route 13

Need community park, ball field, community center

How do we take care of immediate needs and acute problems as well as take care of Newfield's heritage and focus on preventing acute problems
Gas drilling issues

Have the current economic conditions led you to think differently about your community's future than you have in the past?

Have noticed an increase demand for food pantry and personal care items

More requests being made to the Community Good Neighbor Fund

Economic stressors

Are you exploring any alternatives which you might not have considered before now?

Have conditions caused any change in strategic direction? Mission?

First town comprehensive plan in draft, planning board. Plan to be ready in about 18 months.

What is the most effective grant received that assisted the people of Newfield? What made it different from others?

If you were to describe the "ideal" grant from the Community Foundation in the next 3 - 6 months, how would it be structured? What would it be for?

United Way, Community Foundation Women's Fund to Community Good Neighbor Fund, CAP grant, NYS government member items, Gates grant(s) – **two for computers**

To whom does the leadership in your community look for help in difficult times - both for assistance in planning for the future, fundraising ideas, operational assistance?

Are there sufficient resources in the community to assist you? In what ways could the Community Foundation be more helpful?

Challenge at end of meeting to join resources with other Newfielders to create a Community Foundation fund for Newfield

Other: There is talk periodically of the school having to merge ... residents are opposed. Young people are leaving Newfield. They'd like to attract some employment, maybe a few more businesses.

Would be good to have a community bulletin board or web site ... could be very simple, low tech, low speed.